

Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DHA-02 ORM-02 SP-02 INSE-00 CIAE-00
VO-03 DODE-00 SY-05 DEAE-00 SCA-01 AID-05 IO-13
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EA:TBARNES

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
INFO AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SREF, TH

SUBJECT: IMPLEMENTATION IN THAILAND OF THE PAROLE ACTION

FOR 15,000 INDOCHINESE

1. SUMMARY: THIS TELEGRAM PROVIDES DEPARTMENT'S CURRENT
PLANNING REGARDING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF NEW PAROLE PROGRAM.
END SUMMARY.

2. BANGKOK WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF ABOUT
10,000 OUT OF THE 15,000 REFUGEE PAROLE ACTION; 8000 CAMP
REFUGEES AND 2000 BOAT CASES. THIS IS ABOUT THE SAME VOLUME
AS EPP AND SHOULD BE COMPLETED IN ABOUT THE SAME TIME FRAME -
ONE YEAR FROM BEGINNING OF CAMP SCREENING IN JANUARY 1976
UNTIL LAST REFUGEES ARRIVED IN THE UNITED STATES IN NOV/DEC.
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THE 2000 BOAT CASES SHOULD BE RELATIVELY EASY TO PROCESS AND
WE WILL NOT HAVE THE FRANTIC RUSH TO OBLIGATE MONEY AS IN
MAY/JUNE LAST YEAR. ON THE OTHER HAND, WE ARE STARTING FROM
GROUND ZERO ON SCREENING CAMPS FOR THE 8000 AND THAT IS A
MAJOR TASK. IN SHORT, WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO HAVE ALL THESE
REFUGEES IN THE UNITED STATES BEFORE NEXT JUNE - BUT WE WILL
HAVE TO PROCEED BRISKLY.

3. WE ARE CONTEMPLATING SOME MAJOR CHANGES IN THE GENERAL STRUCTURE OF THE PAROLE ACTION FROM THAT USED IN THE EPP. DETAILS SHOULD BE WORKED OUT IN BANGKOK BY THE OFFICER IN CHARGE OF THE REFUGEE SECTION BUT WE CONTEMPLATE A GENERAL OUTLINE AS FOLLOWS:

A) UNHCR - PROVIDES INITIAL REGISTRATION DATA AND INFORMATION ON RESETTLEMENT OPPORTUNITIES OFFERED BY OTHER COUNTRIES. ONCE A REFUGEE IS APPROVED, UNHCR WILL COORDINATE IN-COUNTRY TRAVEL TO POINT OF DEPARTURE. UNHCR WILL ALSO CONTINUE TO PROVIDE CARE AND MAINTENANCE FOR BOTH BOAT CASES AND CAMP REFUGEES AND WILL CONTINUE TO NUDGE RTG TO MOVE REFUGEES IN THE DIRECTION OF GREATER SELF-SUFFICIENCY AND EVENTUAL RESETTLEMENT FOR MANY IN THAILAND. D/HA WILL CONTINUE TO SEEK FUNDS TO SUPPORT THESE ACTIVITIES.

B) ICEM - PICKS REFUGEE UP AT DEPARTURE POINT AND COORDINATES FINAL OUT PROCESSING (MEDICALS, FINGERPRINTS, PHOTOGRAPHS, SOCIAL SECURITY CARDS, ETC.) AND ARRANGES TRANSPORTATION DIRECT TO SPONSOR IN THE UNITED STATES. FUNDING OF TRANSPORTATION WILL BE ON A LOAN BASIS FROM AN ICEM LOAN FUND WHICH WE WILL REPLENISH FROM REFUGEE EMERGENCY FUNDS. A NEW DIRECTOR FOR ICEM/BANGKOK IS SCHEDULED.

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C) VOLAGS - THIS IS THE BIG CHANGE. IN CONNECTION WITH THE BOAT CASE PROGRAM, THE AGENCIES ACCEPTED THE PRINCIPLE THAT A SINGLE AGENCY WOULD PROVIDE REPRESENTATION FOR ALL IN EACH IMPORTANT BOAT CASE LOCATION. IN THAILAND, THIS IS IRC. THE AGENCY HAS AGREED TO EXPAND THIS OPERATION TO ACCOMMODATE THE PAROLE ACTION AND ASSIGN BOB DEVECCHI FOR AT LEAST THREE MONTHS OR AS LONG AS NEEDED TO ESTABLISH A SMOOTHLY RUNNING OPERATION. IRC WOULD DO MUCH OF THE JOB UNDERTAKEN FOR THE EPP BY THE REFUGEE OFFICE. THUS, IRC WOULD HIRE TEMPORARY CASE WORKERS, MAINTAIN DOSSIERS ON INDIVIDUAL REFUGEES, SEND BIO INFORMATION TO ACVA/NEW YORK AND RECEIVE BACK SPONSORSHIP INFORMATION FROM ACVA MEMBER AGENCIES. IRC WOULD STAND IN THE SAME RELATIONSHIP TO THE REFUGEE SECTION AS ICEM, THAT IS AS A CONTRACTOR TO PROVIDE SERVICES. THE STAFFING OF IRC AND ITS BUDGET WILL BE WORKED OUT BY IRC/BANGKOK AND THE REFUGEE SECTION AND APPROVED IN NEW YORK AND WASHINGTON. POLICY GUIDANCE AND PRIORITIES ON IMPLEMENTATION OF ITS RESPONSIBILITIES WILL BE PROVIDED TO IRC BY THE REFUGEE SECTION.

D) ACVA - THE OTHER BIG CHANGE IS AGREEMENT OF ACVA TO ESTABLISH A COORDINATING MECHANISM IN NEW YORK. THUS, THE LINK FOR SPONSORSHIP INFORMATION IS DIRECTLY BETWEEN IRC AS JOINT ACVA FIELD REP AND ACVA/NEW YORK. THE MAIN WORKING INTERFACE BETWEEN THE USG AND THE VOLAGS IN SUCH AN ARRANGEMENT BECOMES BANGKOK. WHILE WE WILL REQUIRE A FEW ADDITIONAL PERSONNEL IN WASHINGTON, OUR BIG UNIVERSAL NORTH OPERATION WILL BE ELIMINATED. THE VOLAGS ARE HAPPY BECAUSE MOST HAVE THEIR FILES AND RESOURCES IN NEW YORK.

E) EMBASSY REFUGEE SECTION - IN THIS SCENARIO, THE REFUGEE SECTION BECOMES LESS INVOLVED IN INDIVIDUAL CASES AND MORE AN OVERALL MANAGER. FSO THOMAS BARNES WILL RUN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THIS SECTION UNDER THE DCM'S SUPERVISION. BARNES CURRENTLY PLANS TO ARRIVE IN BANGKOK AUGUST 21. FINAL DECISIONS ON STAFFING WILL AWAIT HIS ARRIVAL, AND DISCUSSIONS WITH THE DCM AND CURRENT REFUGEE SECTION STAFF.

3. FUNDING FOR REFUGEE OFFICE WILL HAVE TO BE WORKED OUT. FUNDING FOR IRC AND ACVA WILL BE FROM REFUGEE EMERGENCY FUNDS.

4. THE FIRST PRIORITY FOR MOVEMENT WILL BE THE BOAT CASES. THIS SHOULD OCCUPY FIRST 3-4 MONTHS IN TERMS OF AVAILABLE VOLAG SPONSORSHIPS. DURING THAT TIME, IRC/ACVA CAN BE STAFFING UP AND COMPLETING CAMP PRE-SCREENING PRIOR TO INS INTERVIEWS AND CLEARANCES. SPONSORSHIPS SHOULD BEGIN TO BE AVAILABLE FOR CAMP REFUGEES ABOUT DECEMBER. THEREFORE, INS OPERATIONS MIGHT BEGIN IN THE CAMPS IN NOVEMBER. CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 12-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: HEMEINHEIT:D/HA:SLOWMAN:VDW
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
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Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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